TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 18, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended December 13 totaled an estimated 17.5 billion ton-miles, 1.0 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 50 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 851.1 billion ton-miles, 0.5 percent higher than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended December 13 totaled 388,641, down 1.9 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 0.7 percent higher than the preceding week.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 14 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain increased by 2,018 cars (7.7 percent). Eleven of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended December 6 totaled 95,039 trailers and/or containers, 3.5 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 49 weeks of the year was 4,724,922 trailers and/or containers, up 9.1 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 12/13/86:

	Loadings in Week ended December 13, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	28,101	I	2,018	7.7	I	1	0.0
Other farm products	4,803	I	345	7.7	I	302	6.7
Metallic ores	10,383	D	1,709	14.1	I	1,597	18.2
Coal	118,127	D	5,490	4.4	I	942	0.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,793	I	695	6.3	D	176	1.5
Nonmetallic minerals	8,733	D	1,853	17.5	I	368	4.4
Grain mill products	11,344	I	648	6.1	I	62	0.5
Food and kindred products	11,337	D	450	3.8	D	28	0.2
Primary forest products	10,398	D	1,168	10.1	D	254	2.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,417	I	584	8.5	D	12	0.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,511	D	1,036	7.6	D	179	1.4
Chemicals and allied products	23,279	I	815	3.6	D	2,060	8.1
Petroleum products	4,187	D	535	11.3	D	441	9.5
Stone, clay and glass products	8,899	D	131	1.5	D	388	4.2
Coke	3,837	D	606	13.6	D	398	9.4
Metals and products	7,122	D	722	9.2	D	505	6.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,300	D	1,936	8.0	I	2,430	12.2
Waste and scrap materials	8,217	D	15	0.2	I	483	6.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,998	D	3,360	52.8	D	201	6.3
All other carloads	72,733	I	6,385	9.6	I	1,007	1.4
LCL traffic	122	D	32	20.8	I	19	18.4
Total Cars Loaded	388,641	D	7,553	1.9	I	2,569	0.7
Corresponding week of 1985	396,194						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (50 weeks)	18,855,694	18,948,410	D 0.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
49 Weeks ended December 6	833.6	829.8	I 0.5
Week ended December 13	17.5	17.3	I 1.0
50 Weeks cumulative	851.1	847.2	I 0.5

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